

Appln. No. 10/083,792
Attorney Docket 01-1001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

In the Amendments to the Claims, Applicants denote deleted text with ~~strikethroughs~~ and additions to the text with underlining. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for altering a called calling party of a voice mail message from a calling called party via a network comprising a telephone network, a data network, and at least one gateway device connected to both the telephone network and the data network, the method performed by the gateway device comprising: ³⁰ ^{see figure 1} ³⁴ ^{see Abstract}
^{inherently} receiving a first the-message including an identifier of identifying the calling party and the voice mail message requesting a call in the voice network to the called party; and ^{Col. 5 lines 34-59}
providing a second the-message including the calling party identifier and the voice mail message to the called party via the data network by displaying an instant message containing a notification of the message on a display device visible to the called party. ^{Col. 7 lines 67-8} ^{Col. 8 line 8}
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the telephone network is a public switched services telephone network. ^{inherent} ^{Col. 5 lines 1-6}
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the telephone network is a wireless telephone network. ^{Col. 4 lines 24-34}
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the first message comprises:

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connecting to an intelligent peripheral device in the telephone network, wherein the intelligent peripheral device is connected to a voice mailbox; and obtaining, via the intelligent peripheral device, the voice mail message from the voice mailbox.

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5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein providing the second message to the called party via the data network comprises providing the second message to a server in the data network associated with the called party; and the server causing notification of the message to appear on a display device visible to the called party.

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6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein providing the second message to the server comprises providing the second message using an instant messaging server.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving voice mail and providing voice mail information to a voice-mailbox owner in which a calling party places a telephone call by transmitting signaling information corresponding to a telephone number, and leaves a voice mail message, the method comprising:

registering the voice mailbox owner using an instant messaging server;
receiving from the calling party the signaling information corresponding to the telephone number;

receiving from the calling party the voice mail message;
storing the voice mail message in a voice mail storage memory;

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generating a voice mail alert message corresponding to the voice mail message,
the voice mail alert message including the voice mail message; and
transmitting the voice mail alert message to an instant messaging server; and
~~causing a user terminal of the voice mailbox owner to display an instant message~~
~~indicating that the voice mail message has been received.~~

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8. (Currently Amended) A method for providing voice mail indication to a user in a system comprising a data network and a telephone network, the method comprising:
receiving via the telephone network a voice mail for the user;
storing the voice mail in the telephone network;
sending a message to a server connected to the data network, the message
including the voice mail; and
storing the voice mail in a database accessible by the data network.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
receiving a request from the user for accessing the voice mail.
10. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising:
receiving a request from the user for manipulating the status of the voice mail.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein manipulating the status of the voice mail further comprises connecting to the telephone network and changing the voice mail status based on the request.

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12. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:
- a telephone network capable of for-receiving a voice message from a calling party to a called party;
- a data network capable of for-providing indication of the receipt of the voice message from the calling party; and
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a gateway device, connected to both the telephone network and the data network, capable of for-receiving, via the telephone network, a first message including signaling information representing the voice message and an indication of the calling party from the calling party to a called party and providing a second message including the voice message and the indication of the calling party to the called party via the data network.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12, wherein the gateway device is capable of for obtaining the calling party information comprises a means for connecting to an intelligent peripheral in the telephone network and obtaining the voice message from the intelligent peripheral.

15. (Cancelled)

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16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12-15, wherein the gateway device is capable of for providing the voice message notification to the called party via the data network comprises means for providing the second voice message notification to a server in the data network associated with the called party.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 12-15, wherein the gateway device is capable of for providing the voice message notification to the called party comprises means for providing the second voice message notification using an instant messaging server.

18. (Currently Amended) Apparatus comprising:

a telephone network;

a first transmitter connected to the telephone network;

a data network;

a second transmitter connected to the data network;

a display device;

a gateway connected to both the first transmitter and the second transmitter, said gateway being capable of receiving a voice mail from the first transmitter and providing notification of a message to a called party including the voice mail via the second transmitter by causing display of an instant message containing the notification of the message on the display device visible to the called party.

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19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the first transmitter is capable of receiving signaling information containing notification of the voice mail message from a the-voice mailbox in the telephone network.

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20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the second transmitter is capable of providing the message to a server in the data network associated with the called party and the server is capable of causing notification of the message to appear on a display device visible to the called party.

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21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 20, wherein the server is an instant messaging server.

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